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AUTHOR Tonkin, Humphrey
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ABSTRACT

A discussion of Esperanto in the modern world outlines the rationale for the use of an international language, the role of Esperanto in promoting international communication, Esperanto-related organizations and services, and the characteristics of the language that make it useful and easy to teach. Also included are a fact sheet describing the language's purposes and origins, characteristics, development, users, distribution of speakers, instruction, official recognition, meetings, correspondence and travel, professional networks, special interest groups, literature, and radio transmissions; a directory of Esperanto information centers; and a chart of basic Esperanto phonology and structure. (MSE)

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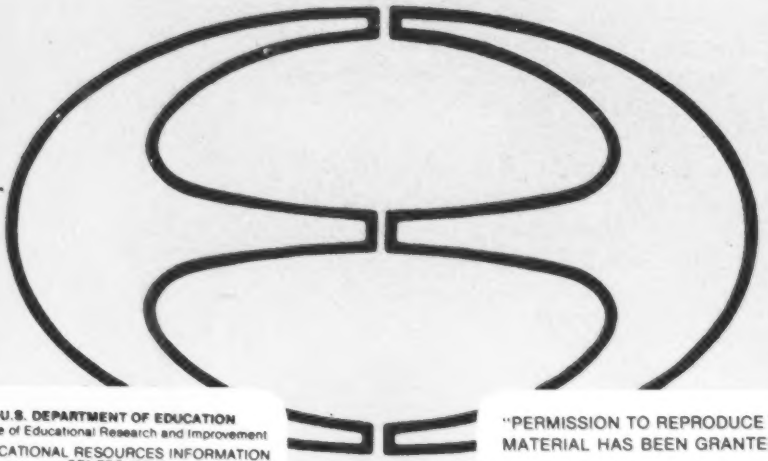
THE INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE ESPERANTO 1887-1987: TOWARDS THE SECOND CENTURY



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Esperanto Documents 39 A

Rotterdam 1987

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Esperanto Documents describe the work, organization, culture and history of the movement for the adoption of the International Language Esperanto as a second language for international use. They are published in Esperanto, English and French.

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THE INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE ESPERANTO 1887-1987: TOWARDS THE SECOND CENTURY

The Universal Esperanto Association was founded in 1908 as an organization of private citizens working for the adoption and use of the International Language Esperanto, a project for an international language published in 1887 by Ludvik Zamenhof, of Warsaw.

Today the Universal Esperanto Association has members in more than one hundred countries and works, from its headquarters in Rotterdam, not only to promote the use of Esperanto but also to draw attention to language problems and particularly to the need for equality among languages.

Esperanto is designed to serve not as a first language but as a second language. It exists not to replace national or regional languages but to serve as an additional, second language for the purposes of international communication. It is easier to learn and use than other languages. Although it began its existence as merely a *project* for an international language, the invention of one man, it has grown to become a complete and living language, used by hundreds of thousands of speakers across the world, with its own literature and society. Its vocabulary — already in excess of a hundred thousand words — is enlarging steadily as its applications grow.

Speakers of Esperanto maintain that the multiplicity of languages in use in the modern world creates vast problems of communication at the most elementary level, forcing up costs and resulting in loss of

efficiency. They point to problems in commerce, in science, in diplomacy, indeed in all the many contacts between speakers of different languages in our rapidly shrinking world.

Large sums are invested each year in the teaching of foreign languages in schools and much skill and attention are employed in language teaching. But while language teachers make considerable progress against often overwhelming odds, this solution alone is inadequate to solve the problem. Furthermore, the burden of learning foreign languages often falls most heavily on the smaller nations with limited resources.

International organizations spend many millions of dollars a year on interpretation and translation, in an effort to allow as many members as possible to use their own languages in debate and documentation. But, despite the impressive results achieved by translators and interpreters, the system is less than ideal, and the costs are very large. Many of the delegates are at a disadvantage in having still to use a language other than their own.

The use of national languages in international meetings is therefore not only costly but also results in discrimination against those whose languages are not used. UEA maintains that this is but one instance of a general and widespread problem — the problem of linguistic discrimination. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international instruments affirm the applicability of rights regardless not only of race or sex but also of language. However, though racial and sexual discrimination are widely recognized as social evils in need of rectification, discrimination on grounds of language has only recently begun to receive attention.

In 1954 the General Conference of Unesco, meeting in Montevideo, took note of the results achieved by Esperanto in the rapprochement of the peoples of the world and recognized that these results were in accord with the aims and ideals of Unesco. UEA now enjoys consultative relations with both the United Nations and Unesco and works closely with that organization on matters of common interest. Several basic documents of the United Nations and Unesco have recently appeared in Esperanto.

Speaking at the 1977 World Congress of Esperanto, the Director-General of Unesco, Mr. M' Bow, reaffirmed the parallel between the aims of UEA and his organization. "One of the most basic tasks

of Unesco," declared Mr. M' Bow, "is, according to its constitution, the strengthening of world peace, of understanding among peoples and of cooperation among the nations. Historically, Esperanto derives from the same principle."

Cooperation with Unesco has included, over the years, not only participation in programmes having to do with language but also broad educational efforts to inform UEA members about Unesco's work and the ideals it espouses. Cooperation in Unesco's East-West project, for example, resulted in the publication in Esperanto of translations of several major literary works from Japan, India, Argentina, Finland, France and other countries. Recently UEA has given special attention to another item on Unesco's agenda — study and definition of the Right to Communicate, and of the role of language in the creation of a balanced flow of communication between the industrialized and the developing world and between large and small nations.

In 1985 the General Conference of Unesco again recognized the importance of Esperanto and acknowledged its "considerable progress as a means for the advancement of mutual understanding of peoples and cultures of different countries." In a resolution acknowledging the centenary of Esperanto in 1987, the General Conference called on Unesco itself to continue to follow the development of Esperanto and on Member States "to promote the introduction of a study programme on the language problem and Esperanto in their schools and higher educational institutions." The resolution also urged nongovernmental organizations to make greater use of the International Language.

The Universal Esperanto Association is made up of individual members and of affiliated or cooperating organizations. Some forty-five national Esperanto associations are affiliated to UEA, as also are five international associations of specialists — doctors, scientists, artists, blind people and railwaymen. An additional thirty specialized and professional associations work with UEA, and the Association also cooperates with a further thirty national Esperanto associations. UEA is a neutral organization, with members of all political and religious persuasions.

Outside UEA there are many other Esperanto organizations, some of them political or religious in character. The International

League of Esperanto Teachers, a non-political, professional organization which cooperates with UEA, enjoys consultative relations, Category C, with Unesco.

UEA is governed by a Committee consisting of representatives of affiliated national associations (in numbers roughly proportional to the size of associations) and of affiliated specialized associations. The Committee also includes a certain number of people elected by the membership at large, and a group of coopted members. The Committee has eighty-four members. A nine-person executive board sees to the day-to-day running of the Association. The current president is Dr. Humphrey Tonkin (USA), vice-presidents are Yosimi Umeda (Japan) and Grégoire Maertens (Belgium) and general secretary is Dr. Flóra Szabó-Felső (Hungary). Additional members of the executive board are Dr. Barbara Despiney (France), Dr. Ottó Haszpra (Hungary), Diccon Masterman (UK), Dr. Victor Sadler (Netherlands) and Jean-Louis Texier (France).

Each year UEA organizes the World Congress of Esperanto, which brings together between one thousand and five thousand speakers of the International Language from as many as forty or fifty countries. The congresses include not only business meetings but also university-level lectures, plays, literary events, and discussions of world problems. No interpreters or translators are used and all events take place in Esperanto.

UEA also runs a small publishing office, produces a monthly magazine and other periodicals, and maintains a library. It serves as agent for its own and other publications and its book and magazine sales make up a significant part of its revenues. Its network of some 1400 local representatives facilitates travel and provides information for UEA members. UEA produces publicity materials on Esperanto and works with other organizations on matters related to language problems and the use of Esperanto. It publishes a Yearbook.

The Association's Honorary Committee, consisting of eminent personages who speak Esperanto and have published in the language, includes Bajin, noted Chinese writer, Ingemund Bengtsson, president of the Swedish parliament, Willem Drees, former prime minister of the Netherlands, and Ralph Harry, former Australian Ambassador to the United Nations. Numerous well-known figures

are supporters of the language or have some knowledge of it.

Esperanto is a fully expressive language developed over a period of a hundred years and employed in almost every conceivable situation, ranging from the logical complexities of scientific discourse to the subtleties of family life. It is easy to learn and use, not because it is in any sense abbreviated or truncated but because it lacks the irregularities common to other languages. Its simple grammatical structure is rendered infinitely flexible through a combination of analytic and agglutinative principles. A vocabulary of several thousand roots is used to create ten or fifteen times as many words through the addition of affixes and grammatical endings. This reduces the number of lexical items that must be memorized, without reducing the expressibility of the language.

Most of the vocabulary of Esperanto is currently drawn from the European languages, both because of Esperanto's origins and also because it is most widely spoken in countries with relatively advanced educational systems. But in other respects Esperanto is not readily identifiable with Europe, having many structural elements common to the languages of Asia and Africa. In principle its vocabulary can expand to take in concepts and ideas encountered primarily in non-European cultures as it gains speakers in these areas. Such trends are already apparent as a result of its extensive use in Japan and China.

The fact that it is easier to learn than the major languages of Europe makes Esperanto an ideal subject for schools, since students are rapidly able to put it to practical use in foreign correspondence and travel — far more rapidly than they can do with English or Spanish or Russian. Teachers also find that Esperanto makes an ideal introduction to language study. Textbooks and dictionaries exist for most of the major languages and new teaching materials are constantly being developed. Currently at least 16 000 children a year learn Esperanto in school in various countries. Were such programmes extended to all schoolchildren by making one or at most two years of Esperanto instruction compulsory in schools, the major problems of international communication through language could be solved in a generation.

Despite the existence of Esperanto courses in schools and adult education facilities, the majority of speakers of Esperanto teach

themselves, aided also by pronunciation records and frequent contact with other speakers of the language. In addition to textbooks and other aids for instruction in schools, UEA's Book Service provides numerous materials for self-instruction.

The Universal Esperanto Association exists above all to promote understanding among the peoples of the world through a single, neutral second language, and to serve the needs and interests of the speakers of Esperanto. At the same time the Association maintains an active interest in matters relating to cultural and linguistic pluralism. Not only should Esperanto serve to link the nations — and above all, the ordinary citizens of the various states — but it should also shield the individual languages and cultures against the depredations and inroads of their neighbours. The Association is dedicated, in short, to the notion of unity in multiplicity.

Hence the Association works on educational programmes to raise public consciousness about the discriminatory aspects of language and the need to create respect for linguistic equality. In this regard, its interests coincide with those of Unesco and many of the nations of the Third World.

Among the aims of the Universal Esperanto Association is the adoption of Esperanto as the language of documentation in major international organizations. In most such organizations documents must appear in several languages, at great cost in time and money. Were all documents to appear only in Esperanto and the original language, a passive knowledge of Esperanto (such as could be acquired in a matter of weeks or months) would be all that would be necessary for most users of documents. Initially, only a small cadre of officials — primarily translators — would need an active knowledge of the language. Resulting savings, after the initial investment, could be used to increase the number of languages employed in debate, or for the organization's programmes rather than its auxiliary services.

Despite methods widely employed to reduce or eliminate language problems, and despite efforts to increase world communication, language difficulties, particularly in international organizations, seem to be on the increase. This fact, coupled with the steady development of Esperanto as a logical and flexible means of international communication, promises to make UEA's role in this field

one of increasing importance. As the principal world organization for the promotion of Esperanto, UEA stands ready to assist with advice, research and materials, in the solution of one of the world's most immediate concerns — so that the other problems which confront mankind in the last two decades of the twentieth century — hunger and disease, problems of economic development, questions of war and peace — can be confronted directly and forcefully and ultimately successfully, through direct communication among people of goodwill.

HUMPHREY TONKIN is President of Potsdam College of the State University of New York, U.S.A. This article was originally presented as a paper at the Conference on Language and Communication, in New York City in December, 1986.

AN UPDATE ON ESPERANTO

In November 1985 Unesco, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, passed a resolution recognizing Esperanto's achievements in "international exchange and mutual understanding of the peoples of the world" and calling for the increased use of Esperanto in schools and in international organizations... In May 1985 the Chinese Esperanto magazine *El Popola Ĉinio* celebrated thirty years of continuous publication and Radio Beijing celebrated twenty years of broadcasting in Esperanto; there are now over 200 000 Esperanto speakers in China... The 1983 World Congress of Esperanto, in Budapest, which brought together over 5000 Esperanto speakers, was the largest Esperanto event ever held... Recently the European Commission of the European Economic Community has contracted with the Dutch software firm BSO to develop an automatic translation system using a disambiguated Esperanto as bridge language... The Esperanto Parliamentary Group, with some 200 members, is the largest all-party lobby in the British parliament... Preparations are well advanced for the centennial year of Esperanto in 1987: The World Congress of Esperanto will take place in Warsaw, there will be a cultural festival in Yugoslavia, and a series of scholarly conferences is taking place in the United States, France, Japan and Austria... The newly published *Esperanta Antologio*, an anthology of Esperanto poetry, contains 887 pages and selections from the published work of 165 poets writing in Esperanto... To bring you up to date on these and other recent developments, UEA has compiled the following fact sheet.

Purpose and origins of Esperanto. Esperanto was created in the 1880's as a language for international communication. Its author was a Polish doctor of Jewish extraction, Ludovic Zamenhof. Esperanto is the only project for an international language to have grown into a full-fledged language with its own worldwide speech community. It is not intended to replace ethnic languages but to serve as an additional, second language for all people.

Characteristics. Esperanto is both a spoken and a written language. Its lexicon originates primarily from Western European languages, but words from other sources are constantly being added. Its syntax and morphology show strong Slavic influences and have much in common with isolating languages, like Chinese, as well as agglutinative languages such as Turkish, Swahili and Japanese.

Development. In its earliest stages, the language consisted of about a thousand roots, from which ten or twelve thousand words could be formed. It has developed rapidly since then. Today, the largest Esperanto dictionary, *Plena Ilustrita Vortaro* [1970], contains 15 000 roots, from which some 150 000 words can be formed.

Users. The Universal Esperanto Association, which consists mostly of Esperanto organizers and activists, has members in over 90 countries. With the recent acceptance of national Esperanto associations in Colombia, Cuba, Portugal and the People's Republic of China, the number of UEA's affiliates now stands at forty-five. Calculations based on numbers of textbooks sold and on membership of local Esperanto societies put the number of people with some knowledge of the language in the hundreds of thousands and possibly millions.

Distribution of speakers. Esperanto is relatively easy to learn for speakers of all languages. Hence there are concentrations of Esperanto speakers in countries as diverse as Japan, Brazil, Madagascar and Bulgaria. A book on the persecution of Esperanto speakers under Hitler and Stalin was recently published in Japan in 50 000 copies.

Teaching Esperanto. Because Esperanto is easily learned, it is an ideal introduction to foreign language study. Students also rapidly reach a level at which they can begin to use Esperanto for correspondence or school trips. At least 16 500 pupils in 500 schools in 30 countries learn Esperanto each year. Many other people learn on their own, by correspondence, or through local Esperanto clubs. Textbooks and self-instruction materials exist for most major languages. Some 125 universities in 28 countries offer courses in Esperanto, and several journals on Esperanto studies appear regularly. The Modern Language Association of America's Annual Bibliography records over 300 scholarly books and articles a year.

Official recognition. In 1954 the General Conference of Unesco recognized that the achievements of Esperanto correspond with Unesco's aims and ideals, and consultative relations were established between Unesco and UEA. In 1977 the Director General of Unesco, Mr. Amadou-Mahtar M' Bow, gave the opening address at the 62nd World Congress of Esperanto. In 1979 UEA was elected to the Standing Committee of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relations with Unesco. In 1985 Unesco supported a meeting of experts on language and communication convened by UEA, and the Unesco General Conference again recognized the role of Esperanto in the promotion of international understanding and called on member-states and international organizations to promote its teaching in schools and its use in international affairs. In January 1979 UEA and the Organization of American States established general cooperative relations, and in 1980 the World Tourism Organization, meeting in Manila, accepted a declaration referring to the importance of a knowledge of foreign languages, especially Esperanto, for facilitating communication among tourists. UEA also has consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and, as of 1986, with the Council of Europe.

Meetings. Over a hundred international conferences and meetings are held each year in Esperanto — without translators or interpreters. A short list of venues for the annual World Congress of Esperanto shows the international character of these meetings: Budapest (1983), Vancouver (1984), Augsburg (1985), Beijing (1986), Warsaw (1987), Rotterdam (1988), Brighton (1989), Abidjan (1990).

Correspondence and travel. UEA has services to promote contacts between Esperanto speakers. Each year, millions of letters are written in the language and between ten and fifteen thousand Esperanto speakers travel abroad to meetings; many others use Esperanto for private travel. *Pasporta Servo* is a unique service for young people which enables them to stay as non-paying guests in the homes of Esperanto speakers worldwide.

Professional contacts. Professional organizations for Esperanto speakers include associations for doctors and medical workers, journalists, lawyers, scientists, mathematicians and musicians. Such

organizations often publish their own journals, organize conferences and help to expand the language for professional and specialized use. The annual conference of the International Cybernetics Association, for example, makes use of Esperanto as one of the working languages. Esperanto is the working language of the International Academy of Sciences of San Marino.

Special interests. There are numerous Esperanto organizations for special-interest groups such as Scouts and Guides, the blind, chess and Go players. An international pressure group on human rights uses Esperanto in its work. UEA has its own youth section, TEJO, which holds frequent international meetings and publishes its own periodicals. Buddhists, Catholics, Quakers, Protestants, Mormons and Baha'i have their own religious organizations. Groups of Esperanto-speaking women and gay people make use of the language in their international contacts and other activities.

Literature. There is an extensive literature in Esperanto, both translated and original. Of the numerous translations published recently, titles include Shakespeare's *Sonnets*, Umar Khaiyam's *Rubaiyat* and Camoes' *Lusiads*. Other translations from Italian (Goldoni), French (Beaumarchais), Swahili (Farok Topan, Ebrahim Husein), Chinese (Ba Jin, Lu Hsin), Polish (Sienkiewicz), Latin (Bœthius), Czech (Čapek, Seifert), Japanese (Miyazawa Kenzi), Hungarian (Moricz), Spanish (Gallegos, Cela, Borges), Hebrew (Kishon), and Ancient Greek (Æschylus) have also been published recently, along with translations of such English-language authors as Nevil Shute (Australia), Christopher Fry (Britain) and William Saroyan (USA). Over the past three years, anthologies of Hungarian, German, Argentine, Chinese, Swedish, Dutch and Croatian literature have been published. Even Asterix, Winnie-the-Pooh and Tintin exist in Esperanto translation. Thirteen volumes in a new edition of the complete works of Zamenhof, published in Japan, have appeared. The library of the Esperanto Association of Britain has a collection of more than 20 000 items, and the UEA Book Service has over 2 500 titles in stock. Over a hundred magazines and journals are published regularly in Esperanto, including the news magazine *Monato*, the lavishly illustrated *El Popola Ĉinio* (China), and UEA's own publication *Esperanto*, all on a monthly basis. These publications, along with information

on records, cassettes etc., are listed in UEA's 300-page catalogue, updated and published at three-year intervals.

Radio. Radio stations in Austria, Brazil, China, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Switzerland and Yugoslavia broadcast regularly in Esperanto. So does Vatican Radio. There are also occasional broadcasts by many other stations.

ESPERANTO INFORMATION CENTRES

Argentina	Argentina Esperanto-Ligo, Casilla de Correo 1324, RA-5000 Cordoba
Australia	AEA, P.O.Box 48, AUS-2614 Jamison Centre, ACT
Austria	AEF, Fünfhausgasse 16-18, A-1150 Wien
Belgium	BEF, Schotlandstraat 73 / rue d'Ecosse 73, B-1060 Brussel/Bruxelles
Brazil	BEL, Caixa Postal 11-1105, BR-70084 Brasília / DF
Bulgaria	BEA, Poŝtkesto 66, BG-1303 Sofia
Canada	KEA, C.P. 126 Succursale Beaubien, H2G 3C8 Montréal, Qué
Chile	Ĉilia Esperanto-Asocio, Casilla 13828, Santiago-21
China	ĈEL, P.O.Box 825, Beijing (Peking)
Colombia	KEL, Apartado Aéreo 16194, Bogotá-1
Cuba	KEA, Apartado postal 2018, La Habana 2
Czechoslovakia	SEA (Slovak), Sobotské nám. 6, CS-058 01 Poprad ĈEA (Czech), Jilská 10, CS-110 01 Praha-1
Denmark	DEA, p/a S-ino Tove Bak, Skellet 12, DK-6000 Kolding
Finnland	Esperanto-Asocio de Finnlando, P.F. 48, SF-00131 Helsinki-13
France	UFE, 4bis rue de la Cerisaie, F-75004 Paris
Germany DR	Esperanto-Asocio en Kulturligo GDR, Charlottenstr. 60, DDR-1080 Berlin
Germany FR	GEA, Lambertstr. 12, D-6430 Bad Hersfeld
Great Britain	EAB, 140 Holland Park Avenue, W11 4UF London
Greece	HEA, Agiu Meletiu 54, GR-112 52 Athina
Hungary	HEA, Pf. 193, H-1368 Budapest
Iceland	IEA, Pósthólf 1081, IS-101 Reykjavík
India	Federacio Esperanto de Bharato, p/a S-ro Sundar Pal, 35/1 Swami Vibekananda Road, IND-711 101 Howrah
Ireland	Esperanto-Asocio de Irlando, p/a S-ino J. Davies, 9 Templeogue Wood, Templeogue, IRL-Dublin 12
Israel	Esperanto-Ligo en Israelo, P.O.B. 1289, IL-61 012 Tel-Aviv
Italy	IEF, Via Villoresi 38, I-20143 Milano
Japan	Japana Esperanto-Instituto, Waseda-mati 12-3, Sinzyuku-ku, 162 Tôkyô
Korean Rep.	KEA, C.P.O.B. 4258, KR-100 Seoul
Lebanon	Libana Esperanto-Instituto, P.O.Box 90-931, Jdeideh

Luxemburg	Luksemburga Esperanto-Asocio, 1 rue de Kehlen, L-8394 Olm
Madagaskar	Malagasa Esperanto-Asocio, I-B 87, 10 rue Dr. Villette, Isoraka-101, Antananarivo
Malta	Esperanto-Societo de Malto, P.O.Box 142, Valletta
Mexico	MEA, Apartado Postal M-10576, MEX-06000 México D.F.
Mongolia	Mongola Esperanto-Unuiĝo, Poŝtkesto 733, Ulan-Bator
Netherlands	IEI, Riouwstr. 172, NL-2585 HW 's Gravenhage
New Zealand	Nov-Zelanda Esperanto-Asocio, P.O.Box 330, Wellington-1
Norway	NEL, Olaf Schous vei 18, N-0572 Oslo-5
Pakistan	PakEsA, P.O.Box 535, Multan
Peru	Perua Esperanto-Asocio, Apartado 23, Lima-18
Poland	PEA, ul. Jasna 6, PL-00-013 Warszawa-1
Portugal	Portugala Esperanto-Asocio, Rua Dr. João Couto 6, r/c A, P-1500 Lisboa
Rumania	Kolektivo Esperanto-Interlingvistiko, C.P. 1-304, R-Bucureşti-1
Sri-Lanka	ECS, 71 Pagoda Para, Nugegoda (District Colombo)
South Africa	SAEA, 75 Bronkhorst St., RSA-0181 Groenkloof
Soviet Union	ASE, Prospekt Kalinina 14, SSOD, SU-103009 Moskva
Spain	HEF, Carreras i Candi 34-36, E-08028 Barcelona
Sweden	SEF, Brunnsgatan 21, S-111 38 Stockholm
Switzerland	SES, Zumhofstrasse 22, CH-6010 Kriens LU
Thailand	Tajlanda Esperanto-Instituto, G.P.O. Box 983, Bangkok
Turkey	Turka Esperantista Asocio, P.O.B. 54, Üsküdar/Istanbul
Uruguay	Urugvaja Esperanto-Societo, Casilla de Correo 1040, Montevideo
USA	ELNA, P.O. Box 1129, CA 94530 El Cerrito
Venezuela	VEA, Apartado 47675, YV-1041A Caracas
Vietnam	VPEA, 105A Quan Thanh Str., Hanoi
Yugoslavia	JEL, Terazije 42, YU-11000 Beograd
Zaire	EIZ, p/a Nduantoni-Bakidila Ngangu, B.P. 13, Lukala (Bas-Zaïre)

Esperanto at a Glance

The Alphabet of Esperanto

A a	B b	C c	Ĉ ĉ	D d
ah	*bo*	*tso*	*cho*	*do*
E e	F f	G g	Ĝ ĝ	H h
eh	*fo*	*go*	*Joe*	*ho*
Ĥ ĥ	I i	J j	Ĵ ĵ	K k
hho	*ee*	*yo*	*zho*	*ko*
L l	M m	N n	O o	
lo	*mo*	*no*	*oh*	
P p	R r	S s	Ŝ ŝ	T t
po	*ro*	*so*	*sho*	*toe*
U u	Ŭ ŭ	V v	Z z	
oo	*woe*	*vo*	*zo*	

28 Letters. There is no Q, W, X, or Y.

A, E, I, O, U have approximately the vowel sounds heard in Are thEre thrEE Or twO.

C is not sounded like S or K, but like *ts* in *tsetse-fly*, *bits*.

J has the sound of *y* in *yes*.

The sounds of Ĉ, Ĝ, Ĥ, Ĵ, Ŝ, and Ŭ are heard in *leech*, *hege*, *loch*, *leisure*, *leash*, and *leeway*.

ESPERANTO IS PHONETIC.

All letters sounded: one letter one sound.

ACCENT or STRESS falls on the last syllable but one.

No IRREGULARITIES. No EXCEPTIONS.

THE GRAMMAR is based upon SIXTEEN FUNDAMENTAL RULES, which have no exceptions.

THE PARTS OF SPEECH are formed from Root-Words by the addition of appropriate Letters.

O is the ending for all names of things (NOUNS)

fakto	*gluo*
distanco	*fajro*
piano	*tasko*

ADJECTIVES (descriptive words) end in **A**

evidenta	*freša*
longa	*furioza*
granda	*simpla*

NOUNS and ADJECTIVES form PLURALS by adding **J**

evidentaj	*longaj*	*grandaj*
faktoj	*distancoj*	*pianoj*

(*aj*, *oj* sound as in *my boy*)

THE SIMPLE VERB HAS ONLY SIX ENDINGS.

INFINITIVE	PRESENT	PAST	FUTURE	CONDITIONAL	IMPERATIVE
I	**AS**	**IS**	**OS**	**US**	**U**
ESTI	*estas*	*estis*	*estos*	*estus*	*estu*
LERNI	*lernas*	*lernis*	*lernos*	*lernus*	*lernu*
HELPI	*helpas*	*helpis*	*helpos*	*helpus*	*helpu*

N marks the ACCUSATIVE (*direct object*).

Mi (I) *helpas lin* (him)
Li (he) *helpas min* (me)
Ŝi lernas Esperanton

ADVERBS end in **E**

energie
entuziasme
diligente

Publication list of Esperanto Documents

No. Title

1. Unesco and the UEA (out of print)
2. Universal Esperanto Association, Annual Report 1974-75 (out of print)
3. The 60th Universal Congress of Esperanto
4. The development of poetic language in Esperanto
5. The contribution of the Universal Esperanto Association to world peace (out of print)
6. An introduction to Esperanto studies (out of print)
7. Esperanto on the air
8. The Universal Esperanto Association in International Women's Year 1975
9. International travel by speakers of Esperanto
10. Universal Esperanto Association, Annual Report 1975-76
11. Language problems and the Final Act (out of print)
12. Esperanto and the Universal Esperanto Association (out of print)
13. Language and the right to communicate (out of print)
14. Esperanto and older people
15. Language and international communication: The right to communicate (out of print)
16. The use of the international language Esperanto as a partial solution to language problems in international nongovernmental organizations: some recommendations
17. Understanding among Africans: linguistic isolations and linguistic communication
18. The future of modern languages in English-speaking countries
19. The cultural value of Esperanto
20. Translation in International Organizations
21. Language equality in international cooperation (out of print)
22. Esperanto: European or Asiatic language?
23. Esperanto and the Universal Esperanto Association
24. Resolutions of the 65th World Esperanto Congress
25. Constitution of the Universal Esperanto Association
26. The language problem in the Non-Aligned Movement
27. Esperanto in the service of the United Nations
28. Current work in the linguistics of Esperanto (out of print)
29. Esperanto and literary translation
30. Esperanto and the International Year of Disabled Persons 1981
31. The educational value of Esperanto study: an American view
32. Unesco and the UEA 1976-1982
33. World Communications Year: Social and linguistic aspects of modern communication
34. The language problem in tourism
35. A history of the World Esperanto Youth Organization
36. A lingua franca for Africa
37. The contribution of the Universal Esperanto Association to world peace
38. The language problem in science and the role of the international language Esperanto

Several of the above documents are also available in French or Esperanto.